

# Arkansas Insurance Department

Mike Huckabee  
Governor



Julie Benafield Bowman  
Commissioner

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Arkansas Insurance Department Intervenes For Katrina-Ridden States**

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS (September 2, 2005) — State Insurance Commissioner Julie Benafield Bowman today announced that the Arkansas Insurance Department will intervene and work on behalf of the Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi Insurance Departments by servicing those consumers who have sought refuge in Arkansas due to displacement by Hurricane Katrina.

“We realize that many of the citizens of Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana are seeking shelter and assistance in the State of Arkansas,” Commissioner Bowman said. “Many of these individuals have come with just the clothes on their backs and cannot access important information, such as insurance cards or insurance policies. We want to help these displaced families as much as possible.”

Persons from the Katrina-ridden states who would normally contact their state insurance departments may contact the Arkansas Insurance Department and receive assistance with consumer-related questions. Representatives from the Department will be able to assist with filing claims, and other steps necessary to begin recovering from a disaster.

Instead of contacting each individual’s resident state insurance department, consumers may call the Arkansas Insurance Department’s Consumer Services Division at 1-800-852-5494 or those calling in the Little Rock area may call 501-371-2640. The Department may be reached online at [www.insurance.arkansas.gov](http://www.insurance.arkansas.gov)

The Arkansas Insurance Department is located at 1200 West Third Street (the corner of Third and Cross Streets) in downtown Little Rock. Its primary mission is consumer protection through insurer solvency and market conduct regulation, and fraud prosecution and deterrence.

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